

Fifteen years ago, September 9, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,354,932,000,000 (One trillion, three hundred fifty-four billion, nine hundred thirty-two million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,193,544,705,773.12 (Four trillion, one hundred ninety-three billion, five hundred forty-four million, seven hundred five thousand, seven hundred seventy-three dollars and twelve cents) during the past 15 years.

#### DOING THE SENATE'S BUSINESS— THE NEED FOR A TWO-TRACK SYSTEM

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, the Majority Leader has told us that there is no time left in this session to work on legislation which can improve the quality of life for most Americans. But there is time. As the Minority Leader has noted several times, there is time every evening after the day's work is completed when we can work a second shift.

The so-called "two-track" system has not been an uncommon practice in the Senate. More than a dozen times in the last 13 years, this body has worked well into the evening on legislation separate from that which it worked on during the day in an effort to get the job done. I ask unanimous consent that the 14 excerpts from floor speeches which refer to this practice be printed in the RECORD. These are examples initiated by Republicans and Democrats, majority and minority.

We have the opportunity to pass legislation which will make a positive impact on the lives of millions of Americans. We should not let this chance pass us by.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[144 Cong Rec S 5400, \*S5400; May 22, 1998]

Mr. LOTT. I do want to emphasize, the nuclear waste issue we intend to double track. That is one where we can take an action and then come off of that and go, then, to other legislation, the tobacco legislation. And it will take a period of days to get through the process we have to go on, on nuclear waste. But that is not intended to take the place of either the tobacco bill or the Department of Defense authorization bill. It will be double tracking as we go forward.

[141 Cong Rec S 12676, \*S12677; Sept. 6, 1995  
(Legislative day of Sept. 5, 1995)]

Mr. DOLE. I think we have now completed action on seven appropriations bills. There are no other appropriations bills now ready for consideration. We may try a two-track system—I will discuss that with the Democratic leader—so we can keep abreast of the House on appropriations bills and have all appropriations bills in the President's hands by October 1.

So it may mean some late, late, late evenings. But we will try to accommodate major concerns that many Senators have from time to time.

[141 Cong Rec S 5303, \*S5303; April 6, 1995  
(Legislative day of April 5)]

Mr. DASCHLE. What I hope we might be able to do, perhaps, is to maybe run two tracks, get some debate and offer some of

these amendments. We could maybe work out some short time agreements and have a good debate, rather than just putting the Senate in a quorum call, and then work simultaneously to see if [\*S5304] we might not be able to address some of these concerns.

[135 Cong Rec S 13040, \*S13040; October 12, 1989 (Legislative day of Sept. 18)]

Mr. MITCHELL. That is precisely my intention; that if we reach 2 p.m. Wednesday without having completed action on the flag amendment, we will return to that following the presentation of arguments by the impeachment managers and Judge Hastings and his counsel on Wednesday, back to it on Thursday and continue on a double track, so to speak, until such time as we do complete action on that.

[134 Cong Rec S 5258, \*S5258; April 29, 1988  
(Legislative day of April 28)]

Mr. BYRD. So, at least until next Wednesday, I will say that the Senate will be on other very important business, the DOD authorization bill. If that bill is not finished by the conclusion of business on Tuesday, and by that time it appears that the Senate is ready to go forward on the treaty, then Senator NUNN has indicated a willingness to either set the DOD authorization bill aside and take it up following the action on the treaty or, as I suggested to Senator DOLE, Senator NUNN, Senator BOREN, and Senator PELL, perhaps for a day or two we could proceed on a two-track basis, get work started on the treaty, and finish the work on the DOD authorization bill. We can make that decision as of next Wednesday.

[134 Cong Rec S 2818, \*S2833; March 23, 1988  
(Legislative day of March 21)]

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, there has been discussion in the past, and it was certainly the majority leader's duty to move legislation, when it was felt several times that there would be a filibuster unless the majority leader felt it necessary to file a motion for cloture on the first day that the bill came up. This is not a criticism. That happened several times. We did our business. When that came up, we had a double track. We handled the immigration bill and we handled the oversight legislation on intelligence. We did our business. There was nothing inappropriate about that. But finally there were those who said we are unable to put in nongermane amendments.

[134 Cong Rec S 1678, \*S1679; March 2, 1988]

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I would inform the majority leader that I think the aspect of the cloture vote does impel us to do our work, and we are going to do that. I think it would be good if the majority leader and I visited about what we visited about last night. I think perhaps we might be in a position to utilize the services of the new committee, the ad hoc committee, for the referral of a sense-of-the-Senate resolution which could be discussed today, and I would like to visit with the majority leader about that. We have been asked to appoint one new member. I am ready to do that. That group would then deal with the rules issues that we discussed. Then we could go on a double track for the intelligence authorization and then get to Price-Anderson and be dealing with it and have it as the pending item of business when we return, because it is a very important piece of legislation.

[133 Cong Rec S 8426; June 23, 1987]

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, later this afternoon I hope to offer the omnibus trade bill. I would like to get it before the Senate later today for opening statements. On tomorrow, then, following the conference report on the budget action, the Senate would return, probably, to the trade legislation. I remind

all Senators that I indicated last week that we will be operating on at least a two-track system here for the next few days. The campaign finance reform bill will still be around. The trade legislation will be up. We will have to take action on the conference report on the budget.

[133 Cong Rec S 8493; June 23, 1987]

Mr. BYRD. The Senate will operate on a two-track system, under the consent order that was entered. It gives the majority leader at any time the consent to go to the trade legislation—the omnibus bill, or the bill that was reported out of the Finance Committee. I have chosen to proceed with the omnibus approach. That was the approach that was discussed for months, and committee chairmen have acted accordingly. They have been dutiful in reporting out the legislation.

So, beginning on tomorrow, there will be longer days and shorter nights, in contrast to the natural seasons of the year.

[133 Cong Rec S 8363; June 19, 1987]

Mr. BYRD. So by the middle of next week, certainly, I expect us to be on the trade legislation. We will have a two-track system. We will work on trade during the early part of the day up into the midafternoon or a little later than midafternoon. Then we will go to campaign financing reform. I would like to retain the flexibility to switch that mode, but that is my present plan, to go with trade first, then campaign financing reform. We can shift that, of course.

[131 Cong Rec S 14042; October 24, 1985  
(Legislative day of October 24, 1985)]

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, if the majority leader will yield, is it the majority leader's intention to stay with the farm bill until it is disposed of or to lay it aside, double track it with other measures? I do not mean to ask for a hard and fast answer. But is it the overall intention to dispose of the farm bill on a priority basis over other pending legislation which we have half done or partially done.

Mr. DOLE. The Senator is correct. It might be, if we can reach an agreement on reconciliation, we might have to interrupt discussion of the farm bill, say, Wednesday or Thursday of next week, and it could result if we cannot get an agreement, we could have 100 and some votes under the reconciliation process, but I do believe that with that one caveat, and again there is always a possibility that the textile amendment should come off reconciliation, there might be some agreement to offer it to some other bill, but the general intention is to finish the farm bill, and I know it is very important to farmers just as it was in July when we tried to bring it up.

[131 Cong Rec S 13169; October 10, 1985  
(Legislative day of Sept. 30, 1985)]

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, as I have indicated, we will have a pro forma session tomorrow, convening at 9:30 a.m.

On Tuesday, October 15, 1985, the Senate will convene at 10 a.m. Under the standing order, the two leaders will be recognized for 10 minutes each. There is a special order in favor of the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIER] for 15 minutes. That will be followed by morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 11 a.m.

Mr. President, following morning business, the Senate will turn to any appropriations bills which have been cleared. No votes will occur during the Tuesday session.

Mr. President, if we can work it out between the majority leader and the minority leader, I hope we can double track with appropriations bills in the morning and reconciliation in the afternoon. We have gotten behind, not just because of the debt limit but other internal controversies over appropriations bills.

[131 Cong Rec S 9060; July 8, 1985]

Mr. DOLE. We will double track, if necessary, to complete the farm bill that week. We will consider the immigration bill, if it is ready for floor consideration, and if we can work out some agreement, that will not take the entire week. In fact, I hope none of these will take the entire week. In addition to that, hopefully the budget resolution will have been resolved. We have a number of nominations that we hope to dispose of by agreement. If not, we hope to move on some of those nominations because there are a number of very important nominations. It is my understanding that the administration is quite concerned, and hopes that we can approve all of the nominations quickly. But as you can see, July is not too heavy of a schedule. [Laughter.] I hope we can work out some other things in the interim. That ought to be a piece of cake.

[131 Cong Rec S 8201; June 17, 1985  
(Legislative day of June 3, 1985)]

Mr. DOLE. . . . but if that should come up, hopefully we could double-track there for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. I would guess that on Friday we would not be in extremely late that afternoon, but I will attempt to advise the distinguished minority leader prior to the 12 o'clock policy meeting that we have tomorrow.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 678. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Thomas Alva Edison and the 125th anniversary of Edison's invention of the light bulb, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1560. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2225. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse to be constructed on Las Vegas Boulevard between Bridger Avenue and Clark Avenue in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the "Lloyd D. George Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

H.R. 2623. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 16250 Highway 603 in Kiln, Mississippi, as the "Ray J. Favre Post Office Building."

H.R. 3109. An act to establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System.

H.R. 3167. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 297 Larkfield

Road in East Northport, New York, as the "Jerome Anthony Ambro, Jr. Post Office Building."

H.R. 3295. An act to designate the Federal building located at 1301 Clay Street in Oakland, California, as the "Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building."

H.R. 3810. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 202 Center Street in Garwood, New Jersey, as the "James T. Leonard, Sr. Post Office."

H.R. 3939. An act to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 658 63rd Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Edgar C. Campbell, Sr. Post Office Building."

H.R. 3999. An act to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 5209 Greene Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "David P. Richardson, Jr. Post Office Building."

H.R. 4090. An act to provide for a national medal for public safety officers who act with extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.Con.Res. 277. Concurrent resolution concerning the New Tribes Mission hostage crisis.

H.Con.Res. 292. Concurrent resolution calling for an end to the recent conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 503(b)(3) of Public Law 103-227, the Speaker reappoints the following member on the part of the House to the National Skill Standards Board for four-year terms: Mr. William E. Weisgerber of Iona, Michigan.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 206 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5616), as amended by section 2 (d) of Public Law 102-586, the Speaker appoints the following member on the part of the House to the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: Mr. Gordon A. Martin of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to a two-year term.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1683. An act to transfer administrative jurisdiction over part of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture for inclusion in the Wenatchee National Forest.

S. 1883. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Marion National Fish Hatchery and the Claude Harris National Aquacultural Research Center to the State of Alabama, and for other purposes.

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, were signed on today, September 10, 1998, by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND):

S. 1379. An act to amend section 552, United States Code, and the National Security Act of 1947 to require disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act regarding certain persons, disclosure Nazi war criminal records without impairing any investigation or prosecution conducted by the Department of Jus-

tice or certain intelligence, and for other purposes.

H.R. 629. An act to grant the consent of the Congress to the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact.

H.R. 4059. An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolutions were read and referred as indicated:

H.Con.Res. 277. Concurrent resolution concerning the New Tribes Mission hostage crisis; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.Con.Res. 292. Concurrent resolution calling for an end to the recent conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1560. An act requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2225. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse to be constructed on Las Vegas Boulevard between Bridger Avenue and Clark Avenue in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the "Lloyd D. George Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 2623. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 16250 Highway 603 in Kiln, Mississippi, as the "Ray J. Favre Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3167. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 297 Larkfield Road in East Northport, New York, as the "Jerome Anthony Ambro, Jr. Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3810. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 202 Center Street in Garwood, New Jersey, as the "James T. Leonard, Sr. Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3939. An act to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 658 63rd Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Edgar C. Campbell, Sr. Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3999. An act to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 5209 Greene Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "David P. Richardson, Jr., Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4090. An act to provide for a national medal for public safety officers who act with extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 2454. A bill to provide for competition between forms of motor vehicle insurance, to permit an owner of a motor vehicle to choose the most appropriate form of insurance for that person, to guarantee affordable premiums, to provide for more adequate and